

**From:** "Ranvir Singh" <RSingh@osmre.gov>  
**To:** "Pam Grubaugh-Littig" <pamgrubaughlittig@utah.gov>, <James\_Kohler@blm.gov>, <dharber@fs.fed.us>, "Mary Ann Wright" <MARYANNWRIGHT@utah.gov>  
**Date:** 10/27/2005 8:13:37 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Bear Canyon Mine, UT - Adequacy of Existing NEPACompliance Documents for Federal Mining Plan Modifi

PAM,

Yes, the environmental documentation prepared by the USDA-Forest Service regarding the upcoming development of Federal Coal Leases U-46484, U-61048, and U-61049 are adequate for OSM's recommendation to the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management for approval a mining plan modification at this time. We would use them to make a FONSI.

Ron

-----Original Message-----

From: Pam Grubaugh-Littig [mailto:pamgrubaughlittig@utah.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2005 3:30 PM  
To: James\_Kohler@blm.gov; dharber@fs.fed.us; Ranvir Singh; Mary Ann Wright  
Cc: Carl Johnston; Floyd McMullen; Pete Rutledge  
Subject: Re: Bear Canyon Mine, UT - Adequacy of Existing NEPACompliance Documents for Federal Mining Plan Modifi

Ron - is the NEPA adequate? You should have the permit application because you determined this proposal to be a mine plan modification....  
Thanks. Pam

>>> "Ranvir Singh" <RSingh@osmre.gov> 10/26/2005 3:32 PM >>>  
Folks,

This is in reference to discussions on the above subject during the October 13, 2005, Teleconference.

We have completed an initial evaluation of the existing environmental documentation prepared by the USDA- Forest Service regarding the upcoming development of Federal Coal Leases U-46484, U-61048, and U-61049. The Co-Op Mining Company has proposed to incorporate these leases into their existing operations at the Bear Canyon Mine. The Company will need a permit to mine coal from Utah DOGM and a Federal Mining Plan Modification approval from the Assistant Secretary of the Interior prior to entering these leases. The company has yet to file the required permit application package regarding these future plans. Therefore, a lot of details about Company's proposal are unknown at this time.

Our evaluation of analyses of environmental impacts contained in these environmental documents indicates that these documents are adequate for

OSM's recommendation to the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management for approval a mining plan modification at this time. But, without a specific development proposal before us, a final decision regarding any supplemental evaluations that may be needed prior to sending OSM's recommendations to the Assistant Secretary can not be made. Depending on the extent of surface development activities that may be proposed or environmental resources (e.g. T & E species or other critical resources) that may be impacted, supplemental evaluations could extend to a full environmental impact statement.

Ron Singh

**CC:** "Carl Johnston" <CJohnston@osmre.gov>, "Floyd McMullen" <FMcMullen@osmre.gov>, "Pete Rutledge" <PRutledge@osmre.gov>